

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE**REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF: OCTOBER 7, 2009**

DEPARTMENT: OFFICE OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**DIRECTOR: BILL ARENT, ACTING****SUBJECT:**

Discussion and possible action regarding an Interlocal Agreement between the University of Nevada Las Vegas Downtown Design Center (UNLV) and the City of Las Vegas Redevelopment Agency (RDA) for UNLV to provide research and design services on sustainability and urbanism for the RDA as it expands its downtown urban green core beyond Symphony Park (\$50,000 – RDA Special Revenue Fund) – Wards 3 and 5 (Reese and Barlow)

Fiscal Impact☐**No Impact**☐**Augmentation Required**☒**Budget Funds Available****Amount:** \$50,000**Funding Source:** RDA Special Revenue Fund**Dept./Division:** OBD/RDA**PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:**

The RDA has secured Symphony Park in Downtown Las Vegas as one of the first Stage Two LEED-ND Gold Neighborhood Developments in the world. Working with the American Institute of Architects Las Vegas Chapter, the RDA sponsored a design charrette on Friday, September 18, 2009. The charrette focused on “greening” downtown Las Vegas.

The charrette launched a new academic year at UNLV’s Downtown Design Center at Fifth Street School. The Interlocal Agreement between the RDA and the UNLV Design Center will focus on research and student design services. The purpose is to generate new ideas to strongly encourage sustainable development within the urban center of the redevelopment area. UNLV’s fee for said services will be in the amount of \$50,000 with an option to renew agreement annually.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval.

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

Interlocal Agreement

Motion made by GARY REESE to Approve

Passed For: 7; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

RICKI Y. BARLOW, LOIS TARKANIAN, STEVE WOLFSON, OSCAR B. GOODMAN,
GARY REESE, STEVEN D. ROSS, STAVROS S. ANTHONY; (Against-None); (Abstain-None); (Did Not Vote-None); (Excused-None)

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF: OCTOBER 7, 2009

Minutes:

BILL ARENT, Acting Director of the Office of Business Development, stated the Design Center has a big presence at the Fifth Street School. Staff is working with UNLV's Design Center to provide additional services for the potential next step in continuing the sustainability efforts beyond Symphony Park to all of downtown. This contract provides a \$50,000 grant to UNLV's Design Center to provide research and design concepts for adding sustainability to the Downtown Centennial Plan. Agency staff will work with PROFESSOR ROBERT DORGAN, research assistants and graduate students to produce drawings of new concepts to be incorporated into the Centennial Plan or become the genesis of a new plan, based on the concepts of LEED-ND (neighborhood design) for Symphony Park. This pilot project could become an annual relationship.

JEFF KOEP, Dean of the College of Fine Arts, and ROBERT DORGAN, Associate Professor in the School of Architecture and Director of the Downtown Design Center, were present. MR. KOEP was really pleased with this relationship with the City. He stated it is important that the students be engaged where the action is occurring, and it is the reason for establishing the Design Center downtown. Other models throughout the country have proven to be very successful.

MR. DORGAN mentioned all available classes and said that this venture will provide tremendous opportunities to the students.

CHAIRMAN GOODMAN appreciated the programs designed to improve the downtown area.

